

Message Text

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ORIGIN SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 /026 R

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R 140045Z JAN 75

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO USMISSION NATO

INFO AMEMBASSY ATHENS

S E C R E T STATE 008361

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, NATO, GR

SUBJECT: NEGOTIATIONS ON GREEK-NATO SECURITY RELATIONSHIP

1. MISSION IS AWARE FROM EMBASSY ATHENS REPORTING THAT THE GREEK GOVERNMENT IS APPROACHING THE POINT WHERE IT WILL WISH TO BEGIN SOME PRELIMINARY DISCUSSIONS ON THE FUTURE OF US MILITARY FACILITIES IN GREECE.

2. WE HAVE INDICATED THAT WE ARE PREPARED TO DISCUSS ISSUES AS THEY ARE RAISED BY THE GREEK GOVERNMENT. WE HAVE NOT PRESSED THE MATTER, HOWEVER, IN MEASURE BECAUSE WE BELIEVE IT IMPORTANT THAT GREECE BE KEPT IN THE ROLE OF DEMANDEUR, BUT ALSO BECAUSE REFLECTION AND POLITICAL DEVELOPMENTS MAY LEAD GREECE TO MODERATE ITS OBJECTIVES.

3. THERE SHOULD BE A SIMILAR ATTITUDE OF CAUTION AND RESTRAINT IN NATO'S POSTURE TOWARDS ANY FUTURE DIS-

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CUSSIONS WITH GREECE. WE BELIEVE, FOR EXAMPLE, THAT

THE 13 ALLIES INVOLVED SHOULD NOT CONCLUDE THAT A RAPID RESPONSE ON THEIR PART IS NEEDED TO GREECE'S NOTE IN EARLY DECEMBER STATING THAT GREECE IS NOW PREPARED TO DISCUSS DETAILS OF ITS WITHDRAWAL FROM NATO'S INTEGRATED MILITARY STRUCTURE. MOREOVER, WE HOPE THAT THE ALLIES WILL BEAR IN MIND THE CLOSE RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN GREEK/NATO AND GREEK/US SECURITY ARRANGEMENTS, IN PARTICULAR ON NUCLEAR QUESTIONS.

3. YOU SHOULD REVIEW FOREGOING WITH LUNS AND AT YOUR DISCRETION WITH DE STAERCKE AND URGE THAT THEY KEEP IN CLOSE TOUCH WITH US BEFORE ADVOCATING ANY RESPONSE OR INITIATIVE WITH RESPECT TO GREECE. YOU MAY BRIEF THEM ON A ANALYSIS OF NUCLEAR RELATIONSHIP WHICH IS BEING PRESENTED TO GREEK AUTHORITIES (SEPTEL) AS DEMONSTRATION OF INTERCONNECTED NATURE OF GREEK/US AND GREEK/NATO RELATIONSHIP. YOU MAY ASSURE THEM, AS WELL, THAT WE WILL KEEP THEM APPRISED IN GENERAL TERMS OF COURSE OF US-GREEK DISCUSSIONS. IN RETURN, WE WOULD EXPECT THAT OTHER ALLIES WOULD PAY DUE REGARD TO US/GREEK DISCUSSIONS AS NATO/GREEK TALKS PROCEED.

4. SHOULD PRESSURE DEVELOP AMONG ALLIES OR FROM GREECE FOR A RESPONSE TO GREECE'S NOTE OF DECEMBER, WE HOPE ALLIED RESPONSE WOULD BE TO ASK GREECE FURTHER TO SPECIFY WHAT STEPS IT WISHES TO TAKE AND HOW IT SEES EVOLUTION OF ITS SECURITY RELATIONSHIP WITH NATO.

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: Z
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: WITHDRAWAL OF MEMBERSHIP, DIPLOMATIC DISCUSSIONS, MILITARY BASES
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 14 JAN 1975
Decaption Date: 28 MAY 2004
Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: ElyME
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1975STATE008361
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: GBHELMAN/DB
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D750013-0565
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t19750153/aaaabulu.tel
Line Count: 90
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ORIGIN SS
Original Classification: SECRET
Original Handling Restrictions: EXDIS
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: SECRET
Previous Handling Restrictions: EXDIS
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: ElyME
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 16 APR 2003
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <16 APR 2003 by MartinML>; APPROVED <17 SEP 2003 by ElyME>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
05 JUL 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: NEGOTIATIONS ON GREEK-NATO SECURITY RELATIONSHIP
TAGS: PFOR, MARR, GR, US, NATO
To: NATO BRUSSELS
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 05 JUL 2006